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LIVESTOCK DAIRY & POULTRY

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TOPICS IN THIS REPORT

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U. S. CATTLE ON FEED 1,000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.6 million head on January 1, 2003. The inventory was 8 percent below January 1, 2002 and 10 percent below January 1, 2001. The inventory included 6.53 million steers and steer calves, down 8 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 62 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.98 million head, down 9 percent from January 1, 2002.

Placements in feedlots during December totaled 1.59 million, 1 percent above 2001 but 6 percent below 2000. Net placements were 1.49 million. During December, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 421,000, 600-699 pounds were 507,000, 700-799 pounds were 407,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 255,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during December totaled 1.80 million, 1 percent below 2001 but 3 percent above 2000.

Other disappearance totaled 99,000 during December, 6 percent above 2001 and 4 percent above 2000.

CATTLE ON FEED IN HISTORIC 7 STATES

Cattle on feed January 1, 2003, in the historic 7 States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 9.1 million, down 8 percent from the previous year and 9 percent below January 1, 2001. The inventory included 5.61 million steers and steer calves, down 8 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 61 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.47 million head, down 8 percent from January 1, 2002.

Placements in feedlots during December totaled 1.38 million, 4 percent above 2001 but 4 percent below 2000.

Marketings during December totaled 1.57 million, 1 percent above 2001 and 4 percent above 2000.

Other disappearance during December was 85,000 head, up 9 percent from 2001 and 10 percent above 2000.

Cattle on Feed: U.S. Number Placed on Feed, by weight groups, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots, November and December 2002

Month	Less than 600 lbs	600-699 lbs	700-799 lbs	800+ lbs	Total
	1000 head				
Nov	589	660	417	311	1,977
Dec	421	507	407	255	1,590

Cattle and Calves on Feed, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots, 7 Historic States and United States

State	Number on feed December 1			Placed during December			Marketed during December			Other disappearance during December			Number on feed January 1		
	2001	2002	2002-01	2001	2002	2002-01	2001	2002	2002-01	2001	2002	2002-01	2002	2003	2002-03
	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent
AZ	303	295	97	30	25	83	26	27	104	2	4	200	305	289	95
CA	490	500	102	50	55	110	50	55	110	10	10	100	480	490	102
CO	1,160	1,070	92	165	145	88	135	185	137	10	10	100	1,180	1,020	86
IA	350	350	100	55	65	118	49	59	120	1	1	100	355	355	100
KS	2,640	2,300	87	370	390	105	510	470	92	20	20	100	2,480	2,200	89
NE	2,270	2,180	96	300	340	113	325	370	114	15	10	67	2,230	2,140	96
TX	2,990	2,700	90	360	360	100	450	400	89	20	30	150	2,880	2,630	91
7 States	10,203	9,395	92	1,330	1,380	104	1,545	1,566	101	78	85	109	9,910	9,124	92
Oth. Sts.	1,688	1,503	89	248	210	85	266	235	88	15	14	93	1,655	1,464	88
U.S.	11,891	10,898	92	1,578	1,590	101	1,811	1,801	99	93	99	106	11,565	10,588	92

Average prices, Nebraska, dollars per cwt

Week ended	Slaughter steers				Slaughter heifers			
	Choice 1100-1300 lbs				Choice 1000-1200 lbs			
	2001		2002		2001		2002	
Dec 14	62.82		72.19		63.16		72.22	
Dec 21	62.23		71.40		62.25		71.25	
Dec 28	64.70		72.92		65.32		73.11	

FLORIDA CHICKENS AND EGGS

Table eggs sold in mid-January 2003 averaged 55.0 cents, up 1.0 cent from mid-December. Table egg production in Florida during December was 219 million eggs, down two percent from the previous month.

UNITED STATES

U.S. egg production totaled 7.38 billion during December 2002, down 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.33 billion table eggs and 1.05 billion hatching eggs, of which 992 million were broiler-type and 61.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during December 2002 averaged 337 million, down 1 percent from a year earlier. December egg production per 100 layers was 2,187 eggs, compared to 2,188 eggs in December 2001. December 2002 contained 22 weekdays, one holiday and four Saturdays, compared to 21 weekdays, one holiday and five Saturdays in December 2001.

All layers in the U.S. on January 1, 2003, totaled 338 million, down 1 percent from a year ago. The 338 million layers consisted of 279 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 55.7 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.65 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on January 1, 2003, averaged 69.8 eggs per 100 layers, the same from a year ago.

Laying flocks in the 30 major egg producing States produced 6.90 billion eggs during December 2002, down 1 percent from a year ago. The average number of layers during December, at 315 million, was down 1 percent from a year ago.

Mid-month table egg prices received
by Florida egg producers.

Month	Cents per dozen	
	2002	2003
January	41.0	55.0
February	44.0	
March	50.0	
April	40.0	
May	31.0	
June	43.0	
July	35.0	
August	37.0	
September	36.0	
October	38.0	
November	43.0	
December	54.0	

FLORIDA: Layers on hand first of month,
percent molting and molted

	Jan 2002	Nov 2002	Dec 2002	Jan 2003
Total layers on hand: Thous.	10,694	11,027	10,534	10,484
Percent of layers:				
Being molted	2.0	4.5	3.0	2.5
Molt completed	33.0	30.5	36.0	31.5

Layers and egg production, December 2002, production year-to-date egg production for selected States

Selected States	Average layers on hand	Eggs per 100 layers	Egg production				Layers	
			Total	Table	Hatching	Year to date ^{1/}	Being molted	Molt completed
	Thousand			Millions			Percent	
Alabama	9,778	1,872	183	53	130	183	1.0	10.5
Arkansas	14,541	1,926	280	108	172	280	0.5	12.0
California	22,284	2,257	503			503	3.0	37.0
Florida	10,534	2,174	229	219	10	229	2.5	31.5
Georgia	20,005	2,149	430	257	173	430	3.5	18.5
Indiana	23,035	2,236	515	503	12	515	3.5	33.5
Iowa	37,540	2,280	856			856	8.5	30.5
Maine	4,276	1,707	73			73	0.0	1.5
Maryland	3,238	2,440	79	76	3	79	2.5	48.5
Michigan	6,793	2,238	152			152	6.5	29.0
Minnesota	11,473	2,144	246	239	7	246	9.0	22.5
Mississippi	6,715	2,010	135	45	90	135	1.0	12.0
Missouri	6,858	2,304	158			158	2.5	22.0
Nebraska	11,525	2,161	249	249		249	9.0	21.5
New York	3,648	2,467	90			90	1.5	7.0
North Carolina	10,612	2,026	215	84	131	215	1.0	11.0
Ohio	30,663	2,182	669			669	4.5	22.0
Pennsylvania	24,654	2,336	576	559	17	576	2.5	16.5
South Carolina	5,284	2,101	111	93	18	111	2.5	27.5
Texas	18,761	2,159	405			405	6.5	22.5
Virginia	3,268	2,020	66	34	32	66	1.5	14.5
Washington	5,149	2,253	116			116	10.5	48.0
Other States	46,764	2,203	485	399	85	485	6.1	23.7
United States	337,398	2,187	7,380	6,326	1,053	7,380	4.4	23.7

^{1/} Production year begins December 1.

HATCHERY PRODUCTION

FLORIDA

The December hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 7,748,000 was ten percent below a year earlier. Broiler-type eggs in incubators on January 1, at 4,411,000, were 39 percent below a year ago.

Egg-type hatch during December at 700,000 chicks was 30 percent below last year. Egg-type eggs in incubators on January 1, at 637,000 were 50 percent above last year.

UNITED STATES

The December 2002 hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 754 million, was down 2 percent from December of the previous year. There were 623 million eggs in incubators on January 1, 2003, down 2 percent from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 6.5 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during December 2002, down 2 percent from December 2001.

Egg-type chicks hatched during December totaled 32.2 million, up 2 percent from December 2001. Eggs in incubators totaled 30.1 million on January 1, 2003, down 4 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 187,000 during December 2002, down 9 percent from December 2001.

Hatchery production, United States

Item	2002	2003	2003 % of 2002
-- Thousands --			
Egg-Type:			
Eggs in incubators: Jan 1	31,499	30,117	96
Chicks hatched during Dec	31,657	32,153	102
Pullets hatched during Dec for intended placements in hatchery supply flocks	206	187	91
7-18 months earlier ^{1/}	3,132	3,014	96
Broiler-Type:			
Eggs in incubators: Jan 1	638,208	623,171	98
Chicks hatched during Dec	769,731	753,633	101
Pullets hatched during Dec for intended placements in hatchery supply flocks	6,577	6,675	98
7-14 months earlier ^{2/}	60,397	62,310	103

^{1/} 2002 includes pullet chicks hatched June 2001 through May 2002.

^{2/} 2002 includes pullet chicks hatched September 2001 through May 2002.

MILK PRODUCTION

FLORIDA

Florida dairy farms produced 193 million pounds of milk during December 2002, down four percent from the previous December. Production per cow of 1,315 pounds was slightly below last year. Milk cow numbers on Florida dairy farms in December totaled 147,000, three percent below last year.

UNITED STATES

Milk production in the 20 major States during December totaled 12.2 billion pounds, up 1.8 percent from December 2001. November revised production, at 11.7 billion pounds, was up 1.4 percent from November 2001. The November revision represented a decrease of 0.4 percent or 43 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,567 pounds for December, 18 pounds above December 2001.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.80 million head, 47,000 head more than December 2001, and 6,000 head more than November 2002.

Milk cows and production, Florida and U.S.

Month and year		Milk cows	Monthly milk production	
			Per cow	Monthly Total
		Thous.	Lbs.	Mil. Lbs.
Florida:				
December	2001	152	1,320	201
November	2002	147	1,155	170
December	2002	147	1,315	193
20 Major States:				
December	2001	7,750	1,549	12,008
November	2002	7,791	1,496	11,654
December	2002	7,797	1,567	12,220
United States				
December	2001	--	--	13,902
November	2002	--	--	13,483
December	2002	--	--	14,139

Milk production by quarters, United States

Month	Milk cows ^{1/}		Milk per cow ^{2/}		Milk production	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
		Thousand			Pounds	Mil. Lbs.
Jan-Mar	9,143	9,109	4,514	4,639	41,267	42,256
Apr-Jun	9,114	9,145	4,683	4,806	42,681	43,954
Jul-Sep	9,098	9,155	4,459	4,571	40,570	41,845
Oct-Dec	9,105	9,148	4,483	4,538	40,818	41,511
Annual Total	9,115	9,139	18,139	18,554	165,336	169,566

^{1/} Dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

^{2/} Excludes milk sucked by calves.

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

Commercial red meat output in Florida for December 2002 was 5.8 million pounds, unchanged from the same month last year. Commercial production of red meat in the United States

for December at 3.86 billion pounds, was one percent above 2001.

Commercial slaughter and red meat production, Florida and United States

Source and kind	December 2001	November 2002	December 2002	Year to date 2001	Year to date 2002
Florida					
Cattle slaughtered (1000 head) ^{1/}	8	8	8	90	97
Hogs:					
Head slaughtered (1,000 head)	12	10	9	104	106
Total liveweight (1,000 pounds)	1,997	1,955	1,559	19,240	19,563
Red meat production (million pounds)	5.8	5.7	5.8	63.1	68.2
United States					
Cattle:					
Head slaughtered (1,000 head)	2,779	2,861	2,772	35,368	35,731
Total liveweight (million pounds)	3,490	3,606	3,506	43,173	44,685
Average liveweight (pounds)	1,256	1,260	1,265	1,221	1,251
Beef production (million pounds)	2,110	2,164	2,107	26,107	27,089
Calves:					
Head slaughtered (1,000 head)	85	91	98	1,006	1,044
Total liveweight (million pounds)	26	28	30	328	326
Average liveweight (pounds)	309	308	305	320	311
Veal production (million pounds)	16	17	18	195	196
Hogs:					
Head slaughtered (1,000 head)	8,419	8,656	8,658	97,960	100,264
Liveweight (million pounds)	2,255	2,315	2,317	25,861	26,559
Average liveweight (pounds)	268	268	268	264	265
Pork production (million pounds)	1,688	1,709	1,715	19,157	19,666
Red meat production (million pounds)	3,814	3,907	3,859	45,666	57,168

^{1/} Does not include calf slaughter data.

Average Dollars Per Cwt Received through 11 Florida Auctions December 2001 and 2002

Stocker calves under 300 lbs.					Stocker calves over 300 lbs.				
Grade	2001		2002		Grade	2001		2002	
	Steers	Heifers	Steers	Heifers		Steers	Heifers	Steers	Heifers
Large #1	^{1/}	^{1/}	^{1/}	82.88	Large #1	106.48	93.35	91.10	77.42
Medium #1	134.97	117.27	111.12	95.51	Medium #1	^{1/}	^{1/}	^{1/}	^{1/}
Medium #2	113.09	97.25	95.07	82.66	Medium #2	93.39	82.62	81.71	71.33
All grades	127.09	110.32	100.95	87.10	All grades	101.34	89.73	85.51	74.36

SOURCE: FDA & CS, Div. Of Marketing and Development, Market News Service.

^{1/} Unavailable.